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Administrative Committee on Coordination

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ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE
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SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

Addendum

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Organizational Committee met at United Nations Headquarters from 14 to 16 and on 21 and 22 October 1992 to prepare for, and to follow-up on the second regular session of 1992 of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC). It also considered a number of issues in the context of its responsibility for monitoring the programme of work of ACC for 1992 (see ACC/1992/3/Add.2). The list of participants is contained in the annex to the present document.

I. PREPARATIONS FOR THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF 1992 OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION

2. The Organizational Committee recommended the adoption of the provisional agenda for the second regular session of 1992 of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, made the necessary arrangements for that session and, in that regard, adopted a number of decisions on behalf of ACC. The provisional annotated agenda was issued in document ACC/1992/30.

A. Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development; role and functioning of ACC and its subsidiary machinery; questions related to personnel

3. The arrangements made by the Organizational Committee to prepare the ACC's deliberations on the above three items are reflected in the annotated provisional agenda (ACC/1990/30).

4. The Committee took note, on behalf of ACC, of the report of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions) (CCAQ (PER)) at its seventy-seventh session.

5. The Committee was informed that the Secretary-General would shortly send to members of ACC a communication concerning the follow-up to the ACC's decision on the review of the functioning of ACC and its subsidiary machinery.

II. MONITORING THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION

A. Operational activities for development

6. The Committee considered the report of the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities) (CCSQ (OPS)) on its second regular session of 1992, introduced by its Coordinator. A summary report of activities undertaken by CCSQ (OPS) in the recent past was also made available, and there was an exchange of views on its work programme. The Committee endorsed, on behalf of ACC, the recommendations contained in the report of CCSQ (OPS) and prepared a draft statement on operational activities for development for consideration by ACC.

B. Preparations for the twenty-seventh series of Joint Meetings of the Committee on Programme and Coordination (CPC) and ACC

7. The Committee was briefed by the United Nations Secretariat on the outcome of the second part of the thirty-second session of the Committee on Programme and Coordination (CPC). CPC had proposed to the ACC that the next series of Joint Meetings be held in the spring of 1993 to discuss the results of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and their implications for the United Nations system.

8. The Organizational Committee noted that the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of ACC, would convey to the concerned intergovernmental bodies the views of ACC on the need to review the arrangements for Joint Meetings in the light of the decision by the Economic and Social Council to hold regular high-level dialogues with the executive heads of the Agencies of the United Nations system during the coordination segment. In this regard, it was suggested that joint meetings with CPC in the future could be held at the senior level.

C. Follow-up to the high-level and coordination segments of the Economic and Social Council

9. The Committee was briefed on this item by the United Nations Secretariat. It was noted that the Secretary-General would, once again, stress to the Economic and Social Council the need to identify, sufficiently in advance and if possible on a multi-year basis, the themes for its coordination segment to allow for adequate and timely preparation of inter-agency reports.

10. With respect to the concluding statement by the President of the Economic and Social Council on the coordination segment of the Council (A/47/3, annex IV), in which he recommended that the Secretary-General should report to the Council at its substantive session of 1993 on the implementation of the recommendations contained therein on the eradication of poverty, and the prevention and control of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), the Committee noted that the Council had not adopted a formal decision. It also noted the far-reaching and long-term nature of the issues involved, particularly in the area of poverty eradication, on which immediate reporting was not of much value since it would duplicate information already provided to the Council. It was therefore suggested that the United Nations should bring to the attention of the Council the desirability of having the report on poverty considered at its substantive session of 1994.

11. The Committee was also briefed by the United Nations Secretariat on the initiatives undertaken to date by the Secretary-General in establishing seven United Nations Interim Offices in the Commonwealth of Independent States and Georgia. A number of participants informed the Committee about the activities of their organizations in the region and collaborative efforts with other parts of the United Nations system. The Committee noted that the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/40 dealing, inter alia, with ways of ensuring an integrated United Nations system approach and presence in the countries concerned, in

addition to providing information on the establishment of the Interim Offices, would draw upon the discussion at the first regular session of 1992 of ACC and in the relevant inter-agency bodies.

12. The Committee noted that in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/60 on the need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States, consultations with Member States had already begun within the context of a United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) forum held on 5 October 1992 and hosted by the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). It also noted that this matter would be further examined as part of ACC's ongoing review of its role and functioning.

D. System-wide Plan of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development

13. The Committee was briefed by the United Nations Secretariat on the outcome of the second part of the thirty-second session of CPC.

14. The Committee considered that the United Nations system's response to the challenges of economic recovery and development in Africa, including emergency and humanitarian situations, might be an issue for in-depth discussion by ACC. The Organizational Committee will revert, in the light of ACC's discussion on this issue, to the modalities for follow-up arrangements to the recommendations of CPC.

E. Outline of the annual overview report of ACC for 1993

15. The Committee had before it a draft outline of the annual overview report of ACC for 1993 prepared by the United Nations Secretariat. It decided to adopt the outline as follows:

1. Foreword by the Secretary-General.

2. Major substantive and coordination issues considered by ACC in 1992:

   (a) Role of the United Nations system in the 1990s and the contributions to be made by its organizations, individually and collectively;

   (b) Review of the functioning of ACC and its subsidiary machinery: principal considerations and conclusions;

   (c) Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

   (d) Implications for the United Nations system of the transition process in Eastern and central Europe and in the States of the Commonwealth of Independent States;

(e) Inter-agency implications of the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

3. Follow-up to the recommendations of intergovernmental bodies (the Economic and Social Council, the Committee on Programme and Coordination).

4. Financial, administrative and personnel issues:

(a) Personnel and general administrative issues;

(b) Financial issues.

5. Summary of main conclusions of the subsidiary bodies of ACC and of ad hoc bodies convened under its auspices.

6. Other matters.

F. ACC comments on Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) reports (comments on JIU report JIU/REP/92/1, parts I and II)

16. The members of the Committee were requested to provide any additional comments that they might have on the summary compilation of ACC views on the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) report entitled "United Nations System cooperation with multilateral financial institutions". In the light of consultations, including those with multilateral financial institutions, a new draft would be prepared for consideration by the Committee at its next meeting.

G. Assistance to countries most affected by the sanctions concerning Iraq, in the context of Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations

17. The members of the Committee were urged to provide, at an early date, the information requested in the letter of the Secretary-General dated 5 September 1992 to executive heads on measures undertaken and progress achieved in 1991-1992 in support of the 21 States that had invoked Article 50, for inclusion in the annual overview report of ACC for 1992.

H. Inter-agency coordination mechanisms for the World Decade for Cultural Development

18. The Committee had before it a background note prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Secretariat. It was recalled that all organizations had been urged to appoint focal points for the Decade and to cooperate closely with UNESCO in developing their activities relating to the Decade, particularly in view of the mid-term review of the Decade to take place in 1994. It was noted that the United Nations was making arrangements to ensure that the regional commissions would respond effectively to the requirements of General Assembly resolution 46/157 on the World Decade for Cultural Development.

19. The Committee also decided to combine the meeting of focal points with the Inter-agency Steering Committee to achieve more effective coordination arrangements in this field.

I. Matters arising from the reports of subsidiary bodies of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and from ad hoc inter-agency meetings convened under its auspices

20. In reviewing the reports of the subsidiary bodies, the Organizational Committee requested that those reports include a short self-standing section containing clear and specific recommendations for consideration by ACC, should there be such recommendations.

1. Ad Hoc Inter-agency Meeting on Coordination in Matters of International Drug Abuse Control (16 April 1992); Ad hoc Inter-agency Meeting on Coordination in Matters of International Drug Abuse Control (14-16 September 1992), consultation on drug abuse and AIDS (17 September 1992)

21. The above reports were introduced by the representative of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) and taken note of by the Committee.

2. Ad Hoc Inter-agency Working Group on Demographic Estimates and Projects, on its seventeenth session (23-25 June 1992)

22. The above report was taken note of by the Committee.

3. Second Inter-agency Consultation on the Follow-up to the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s (25 and 26 June 1992)

23. The above report was introduced by the representative of UNCTAD. The Organizational Committee, in noting the recommendations and conclusions reached in the report, emphasized the need for early action by agencies and programmes on the sectoral appraisals of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for consideration at the next inter-agency consultation scheduled for 1993.

4. Ad Hoc Task Force for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994 (6 July 1992)

24. The above report was taken note of by the Committee. The representative of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) informed the Committee that the Conference would be held from 5 to 13 September 1994 in Cairo.

5. Joint United Nations Information Committee (7-9 July 1992)

25. The above report was introduced by the Secretary of the Joint United Nations Information Committee (JUNIC) and was taken note of by the Committee. The Organizational Committee, in particular endorsed, on behalf of ACC, the recommendation of JUNIC that the Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS) become

a jointly financed activity of the United Nations system, based on voluntary and sustainable financial contributions. The Committee took this action in principle and noted that the levels and amounts of such contributions remained yet to be determined. The Organizational Committee invited JUNIC to pursue this matter so that these arrangements could become operational.

6. Report of the ACC Working Group on the Early Warning of New Flows of Refugees and Displaced Persons (9 July 1992)

26. The above report was introduced by the representative of the United Nations. The Organizational Committee took note of the report and endorsed, on behalf of ACC the recommendations contained therein.

7. Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions) (CCAQ (FB))

27. The above report was taken note of by the Committee.

J. Organizational questions

28. The Committee's decisions on organizational questions as listed below are subject to the outcome of the on-going review by ACC of its subsidiary machinery.

1. Appointments to posts in the subsidiary machinery of ACC

29. Pending the outcome of the review referred to in paragraph 28 above, the Organizational Committee agreed to extend for one year the appointment of the Executive Secretary of the Advisory Committee for the Coordination of Information Systems (ACCIS). The Committee also endorsed the recommendation of JUNIC to extend the term of its Chairman for one year.

30. The Committee decided to revert to the question of the appointment to the post of Coordinator of the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities) (CCSQ (OPS)) and to the larger issue of inter-agency secretariat arrangements in this area after the ACC had taken the appropriate decisions in the context of its review of its subsidiary machinery. The Committee was informed that the Chairman of CCSQ (OPS) was ready to make ad hoc arrangements in consultation with its members for the preparation for the next session of CCSQ (OPS). Members of the Organizational Committee noted that an option for the Chairman to consider in this regard might be to use for the above-mentioned purpose the services of the current Coordinator.

K. Meetings of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its subsidiary machinery in 1993

31. Given that the subsidiary machinery of ACC will be reviewed shortly, the Committee decided to approve meetings proposed by subsidiary bodies that will be held by the end of April 1993. The other meetings, proposed for the period from May through the end of August 1993, were approved on a tentative basis, subject to the decisions to be taken by ACC. The meetings are the following:

(a) Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions), first regular session of 1993, New York, 1-5 March 1993;

(b) Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions), first session of 1993, Vienna, 8-12 March 1993;

(c) Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities), Geneva, 16-19 March 1993;

(d) Inter-agency Meeting on Coordination in Matters of International Drug Abuse Control, Vienna, 7-8 April 1993;

(e) Informal Inter-agency Working Group at the Technical Level on Youth (ninth session), Vienna, 19-20 April 1993;

(f) Twenty-first meeting of the ACC Task Force on Rural Development, World Bank (Washington, D.C.), 5-7 May 1993;

(g) Joint United Nations Information Committee, nineteenth session, International Maritime Organization (IMO) (London), July 1993;

(h) Inter-agency Consultation on the Follow-up to the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 1993 (exact dates to be determined);

(i) Subcommittee on Statistical Activities, 7-11 June 1993, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (Rome);

(j) Ad Hoc Task Force for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994; July 1993 (in connection with the Economic and Social Council);

(k) Ad Hoc Inter-agency Working Group on Demographic Estimates and Projections, eighteenth session, New York, late June 1994.

32. The Committee noted that an inter-agency consultation would be held in conjunction with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in April 1993. It noted the proposal for a further meeting in September 1993 and decided to revert to the question of the periodicity of such meetings in the light of the outcome of the ongoing review of the subsidiary machinery of ACC.

33. The Committee decided to hold its next meeting from 8 to 10 February 1993. It would meet from 5 to 7 April and on 22 April 1993 at FAO headquarters in Rome to prepare for, and to follow-up on, the first regular session of 1993 of ACC, to be held from 19 to 21 April 1993 in Rome.

L. Other matters

34. The Committee noted that the draft ACC report on environmental matters to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) had been modified by ACC at its second regular session of 1992.

35. The attention of the Committee was drawn to the joint information note by FAO and the World Health Organization (WHO) on preparatory activities for the International Conference on Nutrition (ACC/1992/OC/CRP.26). The note was distributed in order to keep ACC informed of developments in connection with this Conference, as in the past, and to express appreciation for the excellent cooperation received. FAO and WHO will prepare a note for ACC on the outcome of the Conference, to be held from 5 to 11 December 1992 at FAO headquarters in Rome, including the implications for the United Nations system.

Annex

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Chairman: P. CIVILI (United Nations)

Acting Secretary: N. ISHIHARA (United Nations)

United Nations entities and programmes

Executive Office of the Secretary-General	J. Beagle
Department of Economic and Social Development	M. Stoby S. Khan P. Lee
Department of Administration and Management	K. Walton
Department of Humanitarian Affairs	J. Dedring
United Nations International Drug Control Programme	L. Waldheim S. Bryant
United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	G. Rao A. P. Celik
Regional commissions, New York Office	H. Schmidt
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	A. A. Yusuf
United Nations Environment Programme	S. M. Osman A. Z. Amin
United Nations Children's Fund	P. Altesman B. Ögün
United Nations Development Programme	J. J. Graisse E. Wilkens
United Nations Population Fund	H. Ando S. Rao S. Mousky M. C. Arismendy
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	A. A. Peters
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees In the Near East	W. Lee
World Food Programme	M. Arora

Specialized agencies, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)

International Labour Organisation	J. de Martino
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	K. Killingsworth J. S. Camara D. Forbes-Watt B. Ali
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	L. Schaudinn G. Lopez Ospina
International Civil Aviation Organization	E. W. Faller
World Health Organization	Y. Kawaguchi I. Brüggemann M. Bekele
World Bank	W. D. Haddad
International Monetary Fund	R. Bhatia H. Shugarman
World Meteorological Organization	M. Yerg
International Maritime Organization	F. Labastida
World Intellectual Property Organization	K. J. Suedi
International Fund for Agricultural Development	U. N. Abhyankar
United Nations Industrial Development Organization	H. Mehdi H. S. Halloway H. H. Bahlouli

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General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade	P. Rolian

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Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions)	P. Rolian
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